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From: Barbara Smith
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Subject: LWG Statement

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lower Willamette Group response to EPA's Proposed Cleanup Plan for the Portland Harbor Superfund Site (This statement may be attributed to Barbara Smith, spokesperson for the Lower Willamette Group)

The Lower Willamette Group (LWG) appreciates efforts by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and its partner agencies to get us closer to a final cleanup plan for the Portland Harbor Superfund Site.

The LWG has worked cooperatively with EPA and its partner agencies for more than 15 years. In that time, the LWG has spent more than \$110 million on technical studies, government and Tribal oversight costs and public involvement to support EPA's development of a Proposed Plan.

This complex river system can be cleaned up efficiently and within a reasonable time by focusing on areas where contaminant levels present the greatest potential risk to humans, fish and wildlife. This includes cleanup of sediments in the Portland Harbor that pose unacceptable risks to human health and the environment. Substantial work has been completed to remove or control potential sources of contamination and to address some of the most contaminated sites.

LWG members have begun review of EPA's Proposed Plan and revised Feasibility Study. Our hope is that the Proposed Plan and subsequent Record of Decision will lead to implementation of a health protective, timely, and cost-efficient cleanup of the Portland Harbor.

About the Lower Willamette Group (LWG)

The LWG is composed of the ten parties who signed an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to conduct the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) of the Portland Harbor Superfund Site and four other parties who have contributed financially to the project. The members are: Arkema Inc., Bayer CropScience, Inc. BNSF Railway Company, Chevron U.S.A., Inc., City of Portland, EVRAZ, Gunderson LLC, Kinder Morgan Liquids Terminals, NW Natural, Phillips 66 Company, Port of Portland, Siltronic Corporation, TOC

Holdings Co., and Union Pacific Railroad Company.

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